



FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 1, 1898

## FROM WASHINGTON.

(Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.)

WASHINGTON, April 1.

The Chickering general bill declaring that enlistment in either army or navy will not deprive veterans of pensions for previous service has been agreed on in the House committee on invalid pensions with an amendment. The following amendment was adopted: And all persons who served in the Confederate army during the late civil war who shall hereafter serve in the army or navy of the United States for at least 90 days shall be entitled to benefits of the act of June 27, 1890, and pensionable thereunder if shown to be unable to perform manual labor and dependent thereon for support. The bill was immediately favorably reported to the House.

The Cuban government (meaning thereby the present home rule authorities in Cuba and not the insurgents) has appealed to the President of the United States to respect the will of the majority of the people of Cuba. The appeal declares that the majority represents those in favor of home rule under Spanish sovereignty; that the insurgents are in the minority; that the majority has a right to rule its own destiny; that it would be injudicious for a foreign will (meaning the United States) to impose upon this majority a political regime contrary to its will; and that it would be a great wickedness to dispose of its lot without its own consent. The appeal to the President does not in terms protest against the United States securing the independence of Cuba, but its tenor is to protest against any form of Cuban government other than that now being carried on by the Cuban authorities. The appeal is signed as follows: "Jose Maria Galvez, President of the honorable government of Cuba." The appeal was placed in the hands of the President this morning and the statement was made that it was the direct expression of the Cuban government itself without the inspiration or knowledge of the Spanish government either at Madrid, Havana or elsewhere.

A prominent republican of the House gave it as his opinion to-day that the situation was more critical now than it ever had been. "The reply of the Spanish ministry received by the President last night," said he, "is unsatisfactory. But diplomacy is slow and a great nation cannot be forced to back down in a day." A republican member of the House foreign affairs committee said that the order for the release of the reconcentrados would not be satisfactory. "There is no doubt what the ultimate result must and will be. Cuba will be free and independent. I think it will require war. I do not see how Spain can surrender the island without a resort to hostilities. But there is a much better understanding to-day between the President and the republican leaders than there has been. Some of the most radical who have talked with him are satisfied that the President will insist upon what they are demanding—the absolute independence of Cuba."

In the House to-day Mr. Otey presented a declaration of the National Guard of Virginia requesting immediate and definite action of Senators and Representatives on the Cuban question and favoring intervention. In the Senate to-day Mr. Martin introduced a bill for the relief of the estate of the late W. H. Harris, of Louisiana. Congressman Hay says he never opposed either the Virginia election law or free silver, and that if ex-Governor O'Ferrall continues to say he did, he will tell him so in more pronounced language.

Representative Hall, chairman of the House committee on military affairs, has introduced a bill increasing the number of military officers in the navy by fifteen additional assistant surgeons and authorizing the surgeon general of the army in emergencies to appoint, with the approval of the Secretary of War, as many contract surgeons as may be necessary at not exceeding \$150 per month. The fifteen new men are to be appointed with the rank of first lieutenant after examination on by an army medical examining board.

The Senate committee on foreign relations met again to-day and a strong sentiment has developed in the committee for an absolute declaration of war, and it is an account of the belief on the part of some that this course may be adopted that the Maine catastrophe is being so thoroughly discussed. The committee of this course may the proof of Spanish instrumentality in the explosion is so strong that it could be made to justify a radical declaration. The more conservative element, however, is disposed to be guided in the form of the declaration by the wishes of the President.

Congressman Walker of Virginia called a meeting of his committee yesterday to take action in the contested election case of Brown vs. Swanson, from his State, but a quorum would not attend, and in the present condition of affairs it is doubtful when one can be obtained. Mr. John Wise, counsel for his brother, who is contesting Mr. Young's seat, was here yesterday. The minority report in that case was filed on that day. There is now no little talk of "taking up either case in the House."

Strange as it may seem, among the many visitors to the Capitol are some politicians who have had war experience, but who have come many miles to hear war gab on the floor of Congress from men who know nothing about war.

Judge Waddill and Marshall Treat of the U. S. court for the eastern district of Virginia, left here for Alexandria to-day, where they were held for a few days before the court.

## FAIRFAX NOTES.

The board of supervisors will meet next Monday.

Miss Makely, of Alexandria, was the guest of Miss Jennie Cooper on Sunday.

Miss Jessie Love has returned from a visit to Mrs. J. M. Love, Jr., of Alexandria.

The Episcopal Church of this place has just received a new organ on trial, which will be purchased if it proves to be satisfactory.

Mrs. Broughton, of Sideburn, who was reported last week as very ill, has since died. She was Mrs. John Burnside's mother, and a highly respected lady.

Mrs. Cornelia Fitzhugh, widow of Richard Coleman Fitzhugh, died at Clifton on Saturday last, at the residence of her niece, Mrs. M. M. Payne, where she has resided for several years past.

An entertainment for the benefit of Pohick Church, will be given in Hearst Hall at Pohick, on Monday evening, April 11th, at 7.30 o'clock. —[Herald.]

McClure's Magazine for April has been received from its publishers in New York. Its contents are: The Gordons Assaulting the Dargis Cliff, Stories of the Gordon Highlanders, The Gay Gordons, A Romance of Wall Street, King for a Day, Adversities of a Passenger Engineer, The Row of Dominoes, The Day of the Dog, Rupert of Hentzau, The Nation's Railroads, Reminiscences of Men and Events of the Civil War, and Cupid's Messenger.

## FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, April 1. SENATE.

The attendance both in the galleries and on the floor of the Senate at the opening of to-day's session was lighter than it had been for a work.

Mr. Mitchell presented a telegram signed by a score or more of prominent citizens of Milwaukee, saying that the business and conservative elements of the country were in favor of peace, unless war should be demanded to preserve the honor and dignity of the country. It was referred to the committee on foreign relations.

Mr. Bacon offered a resolution, which was adopted, requesting the Secretary of War to inform the Senate what provisions had been made to protect the sea coast cities of Georgia and what part of the emergency appropriation of \$500,000 had been allotted for the defense of Georgia's sea coast.

Mr. Chandler then called up the resolution which he introduced yesterday requesting the President to send to the Senate the Cuban consular correspondence. At the request of Mr. Chandler the resolution was referred to the committee on foreign relations, the Senator expressing the hope and belief that it would be promptly acted upon.

Mr. Chandler then introduced a resolution calling upon the Secretary of State for such information as has been received by his department concerning the condition of the reconcentrados in Cuba, including the reports from U. S. consuls in Cuba. The resolution went over.

It was decided that when the Senate adjourn to-day it be until Monday next.

Mr. Lodge, saying that he desired to bring before the Senate a matter of importance which ought to be considered in secret session moved that the Senate go into executive session. The motion was agreed to.

Senator Lodge opened the proceedings in the secret session with a statement concerning the advantage of controlling the Danish islands. He argued that this country should own them for strategic purposes.

Senator Frye replied in opposition to this policy, basing his antagonism on the ground that it was contrary to the policy of the United States to acquire territory outside of its continental lines, and saying that the possession of the islands would inevitably involve us in international entanglements. If we should acquire the islands for strategic purposes their fortification would be a necessity and that would involve a great expense. Furthermore, if there was an idea of utilizing them in case of war with Spain over Cuba it should not be forgotten that we had in our own possession at Key West territory nearer Havana than either of the Danish islands.

Senators Frye and Lodge replied that it was evident from the developments so far made that Porto Rico rather than Havana would be the center of our war with Spain and in that event the Danish group would be of inestimable advantage to us. Indeed they considered it almost essential to an early ending of the war. They asserted that Spain's coal supply at Porto Rico was extremely limited and that it could be practically controlled by us if we should own the Danish possessions in that quarter. They also stated it to be the earnest desire of the administration to control the islands.

Senators Cockrell and Pettigrew also opposed the resolution. Mr. Cockrell contended that it would be a great mistake from a naval point of view to acquire the islands and Mr. Pettigrew said that the islands would only make additional territory to protect in case of war with Spain over the Cuban question. Senator Cockrell said that in case of war with Spain, Porto Rico could be taken more cheaply than the Danish islands could be defended.

All the Senators who spoke, including members of the committee on foreign relations, looked on war as inevitable, basing all their arguments for and against acquisition upon this theory.

Senator Morgan favored the resolution and in doing so dwelt more or less upon the outlook for war. He detailed the destruction of the Maine, expressing the opinion that it was due to Spanish treachery.

Senator Tillman interrupted at this juncture to say that any child would know that the vessel was blown up from the outside. What we wanted to know, he said, was who did it. If the committee knew, the Senate should, he said, be informed and the committee should not pursue its usual course of keeping important developments from the Senate.

This intimation was made in a brief speech in Senator Morgan's time and created quite a scene. Senator Gray, a member of the committee, demanded that Mr. Tillman should give names when he made charges. The South Carolina Senator was proceeding in the same general lines when Mr. Morgan, who had grown very impatient, asserted his right to the floor, commanding Mr. Tillman to take his seat.

This he did and the incident was ended for the time being, allowing the debate to proceed. Senator Pettus supported and Senator Caffery opposed the resolution.

## HOUSE.

Packed galleries are the regular accompaniment of the sessions of the House in these exciting days, and to-day an hour before the session convened every inch of available space was taken and hundreds besieged the doors unable to gain admission.

Mr. Boutelle, chairman of the naval committee, desired to go ahead with the naval appropriation bill despite the fact that under the rules this was private bill day. He explained briefly the urgent necessity of getting the bill through at once. A very significant incident occurred while an attempt was being made to effect an arrangement to postpone private bill day until Tuesday.

The Speaker himself seemed to hesitate about asking the consent of the House, whereupon Mr. Bromwell asked if Tuesday was set apart for private bills whether it would interfere with a report from the foreign affairs committee.

"It certainly would," replied the Speaker promptly.

"Then I object," shouted Mr. Bromwell.

Subsequently he withdrew his objection with the understanding that Tuesday should be private bill day provided the foreign affairs committee had no report to make to the House.

The naval bill was then taken up. Mr. King made a point of order against the provision for new battleships and torpedo boats. It was overruled by the chair.

Mr. Cannon offered a substitute for the paragraph in the bill, providing for

three battleships, six torpedo boats and six torpedo boat destroyers. The substitute provided for one battleship to cost \$5,000,000 exclusive of armament, twelve torpedo boat destroyers and twelve torpedo boats, to cost not exceeding \$4,600,000.

Mr. Cannon supported the amendment in a brief speech, arguing that in case of necessity the torpedo boats and the torpedo boat destroyers would be much more valuable than the battleships because they would be quickly built.

"How long does it require to build a battleship?" asked Mr. Dockery.

"Three years,"

"How long to construct torpedo boats?"

"Under stress utilizing the ship yards of the country from three to eight months."

Mr. Cannon appealed to members with cool heads and without passion to act as wise men should act.

"What objection," asked Mr. Norton, "have you in leaving the three battleships in the bill and increasing the number of torpedo boats to the number provided in this amendment?" (Tremendous applause in the galleries.)

"Most gentlemen believe," said Mr. Cannon, "that within a week we will be at war with one of the countries of the earth. That will mean additional taxation and authorizations to borrow \$500,000,000. It means that these burdens shall be put upon the people. Let us double taxation if necessary, but let us not authorize a single dollar that is not necessary to meet the emergency just in front of us. Long before these battleships can be launched the war will be over and I fear these battleships will be obsolete." (Applause on the floor.)

Mr. Boutelle, in a spirited reply, declared that the history of naval warfare showed that the great naval battles of the world had been won by the ships of the battle line.

Mr. Hilborn a member of the naval committee, argued earnestly in favor of authorizing the permanent increase to the battle line provided in the bill.

The debate then shifted into a discussion of the respective merits of battleships and torpedo craft.

## NEWS OF THE DAY.

The democrats made gains in town elections held in New York yesterday.

Karditz and Giorgi, who attempted to assassinate King George of Greece February 26, were yesterday sentenced to death.

Emile Zola may not have to serve his sentence for criticizing the Esterhazy court martial, a favorable report having been made on his appeal.

It was announced in the House of Commons yesterday that Russia had notified the British government that Port Arthur and Ta-lien-wan would be opened to foreign trade.

In a hearing of Cashier Steele, of the Chestnut Street National Bank of Philadelphia on a charge of making false returns, it was testified that the late Wm. M. Singler owed the bank \$800,000 borrowed money when it failed.

Vice President Andrews, of the Southern Railway, yesterday notified North Carolina editors that in view of the recent orders of the State railway commission it is impossible for him to issue any passes for advertising after April 1.

The New York State Legislature yesterday passed, at the request of Governor Black, a measure setting aside \$1,000,000 as an emergency fund for the Governor's use in equipping and maintaining the State militia in the event of war.

The amendments to the sundry civil bill appropriating \$45,000 for the purchase of the old Globe building, and \$650,000 for the Union building, were considered in the Senate yesterday afternoon, and the former proposition was defeated by a vote of 19 yeas to 38 nays.

Tammany Hall was thrown into consternation yesterday by the passage by the Assembly at Albany and the signing by Governor Black of a bill providing that the Tammany civil service rule must be submitted to the New York State civil service board, and that removals cannot be made except on charges and after hearing.

Alice Mitchell, the young woman who a few years ago created a sensation by cutting the throat of Freda Ward, an intimate friend, died yesterday in the State Asylum at Bolivar, Tenn., where she had been confined since the trial by the jury which pronounced her insane and ordered her incarceration. The cause of death is not known.

Stirring speeches were made in the House of Representatives yesterday. General Grosvenor denied the story that the administration had suggested the purchase, by the insurgents, of Cuba and said he had insisted on independence and that Cuba is to be freed by American intervention. Mr. Bailey said all that Cuba wanted was recognition, which would enable her soon to win her independence.

Representative Wheeler, of Alabama, introduced a bill yesterday appropriating \$500,000 to purchase provisions for the use of the Cuban non-combatants, and directing "the President to cause them to be conveyed at once to the starving people, and to use as much of the military and naval forces as necessary to attain this purpose. It also directs the President to notify the Spanish government that this proceeding is an act of humanity, and not intended as an act of war."

## Spanish Enthusiasm.

MADRID, April 1.—The display of fervor at the Royal Opera last night was thrilling. The assemblage numbered 3,000 persons. The Queen Regent was the object of repeated ovations.

Most of the younger ladies wore ribbons of the national colors. When the orchestra played the national hymn a wave of intense enthusiasm swept over the assemblage.

In the midst of the excitement two regiments of infantry marched across the stage. When the Queen rose to leave the orchestra played the royal march, which caused the applause to recommence.

Not a single cry, however, was heard against the United States. The performance lasted until after 1 a. m., and such a scene was never before witnessed in Spain.

The receipts are estimated to have exceeded a million pesetas. The performance was to raise funds for the Spanish navy.

At midnight a workman from Bilbao arrived at the box office and presented \$100. He refused to give his name. According to the scheme for the national subscription every well-to-do Spaniard is expected to contribute 1,000 pesetas and upward, and it is calculated that 1,000,000 Spaniards will subscribe the amount named.

## VIRGINIA NEWS.

Governor Tyler has now on file 100 applications for pardons of persons now in the penitentiary.

The mountains encircling Staunton, gleamed yesterday with snow-capped peaks, a sharp contrast with the grass-green valleys below.

Mrs. Cooke, of Cumberland county the wife of Capt. Edmund R. Cooke, the populist nominee for governor four years ago, died at her home yesterday.

The \$12,000 10 40 5 per cent. coupon bonds recently authorized by a vote of the people of Charlottesville to augment the water supply were sold yesterday to the Miller Manuel Labor School Board at \$1.03.

Mr. Robt. McCandlish has been appointed by United States Collector of Internal Revenue Brady deputy in the office in Petersburg, to succeed Capt. Aaa Rogers, who has been made chief deputy. Mr. McCandlish entered upon his duties to-day.

Mr. Wray T. Knight, the newly appointed republican postmaster of Richmond, did not take charge of the office yesterday. He intended doing so, but illness prevented him. The office will be finally turned over to Mr. Knight as soon as he is able to assume its duties.

In the Nelson county court yesterday George Perry, a young white man, was found guilty of murder of B. F. Jordan, a young farmer. Matt. Ennis, Benjamin and Peter were tried immediately on the charge of aiding and abetting Perry in his assault on Jordan.

Mr. David A. Cardwell, long a well-known business man of Richmond and for some years prior to the war engaged in the newspaper business in Washington, died yesterday in Columbus, S. C. He was a native of Petersburg and 58 years old. His son, David, is general freight agent of the Columbia and Greenville branch of the Southern Railway.

There was a personal difficulty yesterday on Shockoe slip, near the Tobacco Exchange in Richmond, between Mr. Adolph Osterloh, jr., son of the German consul there, and Mr. Betts, a commercial traveler for a tobacco firm. The difficulty is said to have grown out of some personal misunderstanding. Neither of the gentlemen was hurt.

Mr. A. C. Carruth, of Boston, has about concluded negotiations for the purchase of the Natural Bridge, in Rockbridge county. It belongs to the estate of the late Col. Henry C. Parsons. The negotiations of Mr. Carruth do not include the Natural Bridge Hotel or the park and its vast grounds. This latter property is owned by the Park Association, composed of northern capitalists.

Chris Wade, colored, was sentenced for eight years at Christiansburg yesterday for attempted rape. Three weeks ago he met Miss Linkhous in the public room on her way to church and stopped her. Cries brought assistance, and the negro who had dismounted from a horse jumped the animal and fled, pursued by citizens also on horseback, who after a long chase captured the criminal.

William J. Risdon, aged seventy years, a brave Confederate soldier, who served in Company K, Warrenton Rifles, Seventeenth Virginia Regiment, was buried at Warrenton yesterday. Mr. Risdon's death was due to a fall from a ladder about ten days ago. He occupied a position in the Treasury Department, having been appointed to a position in the government service under Mr. Cleveland.

A serious condition exists in the affairs of the Stuart House Guard, of Richmond, which is likely to result in disbandment. Captain C. H. Euker, its commander, was recently charged with behavior unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, having been under the influence of liquor at a notable marriage some months ago. Euker resigned his office, it is hinted, at the suggestion of the Governor, rather than be court-martialed. An attempt was made last night to re-elect Euker, but it failed.

The dedication of the new buildings which have been constructed to take the place of those destroyed in the fire of October 27, 1895, at the University of Virginia will take place at the commencement on the 14th of June. The exercises promise to be very interesting.

A large number of notable speakers will be present, among them Hon. Joseph W. Bailey, the democratic leader of the national House of Representatives, who will deliver the address before the joint literary societies (the Washington and Jefferson), and Rev. Dr. McKim, of Washington, president of the society of the alumni, who delivers the annual address before that body. Governor Tyler and his staff will be present and the Governor will receive the buildings on behalf of Virginia.

## TELEGRAPHIC BRIEVITIES.

Rev. Dr. C. W. Barnes, of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago, has accepted a call to assist Rev. John Hall, of the Fifth Avenue church of New York city.

The naval board has completed its work of examining vessels for purchase by the United States in case of war. The board met to-day and began making out its report.

Neah Baby, an inmate of the almshouse near New Brunswick, N. J., celebrated the anniversary of his birth to-day. He says he is 126 years old and has been an inmate of the almshouse for 40 years. He was born in Exton, N. C., April 1, 1772, he claims. His mother was a South Carolina and his father a North American Indian.

Stipulations of relief supplies to Cuba continue to be made regularly by the central Cuban relief committee at New York. The steamer Egeren which left New York to-day carried 90,000 pounds of corn meal, 10,000 pounds of clothing and 62,000 pounds of provisions and medicines to be delivered at Santa de Grand.

Senator Riley has introduced a bill in the Ohio legislature to appropriate \$1,000,000 to put Ohio on a war footing.

Murdered by a Jockey. St. Louis, Mo., April 1.—Late last night James Street and D. D. Hennessey, two jockeys, became engaged in a fight near the fair grounds, which resulted in Street getting the better of Hennessey and was sitting astride him, holding him down, when Anton McHale, alias "Chippy Crocin," a jockey from Liverpool, England, drew a razor, and with one dash cut Street's throat from ear to ear and ran. Street pulled a revolver, fired three shots at McHale and fell dead. McHale is still at liberty.

The farmer, the mechanic and the bicycle rider are liable to unexpected cuts and bruises. DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve is the best thing to keep on hand. It heals quickly, and is a well known cure for piles. Charles G. Lennon.

## TO-DAY'S TELEGRAPHIC NEWS

Spain's Reply.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—The reply of Spain is said, in effect, to be: The independence of Cuba means the parting or cession of Spanish territory, which cannot be done without the consent of the Spanish Cortes, which is not in session and will not be in session until April 21, and consequently no definite answer can be returned to the demand of the United States until the Cortes assembles. Then a counter proposition is submitted that the Cuban matter shall be settled upon a basis equitable among nations. The United States is asked to give Spain time to treat with the insurgents and ascertain what can be done in the nature of a peaceful settlement.

Senators who know the nature of the reply say it is a very shrewd piece of diplomacy and made for its effect upon the world at large.

It is said the reply is unsatisfactory to the President and that he does not believe it will be satisfactory to Congress. Administration circles feel that after Monday Congress is likely to take matters into its own hands and fear is expressed that there may be a disagreement between the branches of government, which would be unfortunate at this critical period.

No one about the Capitol has thought to speak for the President, although those who have seen him say his hopes of a peaceful solution of the difficulty have been disappointed by the reply of Spain.

The following is an abstract from the telegram received from Gen. Woodford on the evening of March 31, on the general situation in Cuba:

He informs the government of the United States that Gen. Blanco has revoked the bando relating to the reconcentrados in the western provinces of Cuba, which are understood to be the provinces of Matanzas, Santa Clara, Havana and Pinar del Rio; that the Spanish government has placed at the disposal of the governor-general the credit of \$900,000 to the end that the country people may return to their homes with success to their labor.

The Spanish government will accept whatever assistance to feed and succor the necessitous may be sent from the United States in accordance with the plan now in operation. He proposes to confide the preparation for an honorable and stable peace to the Insular Parliament without whose concurrence the Spanish government would not be able to arrive at the final results, being understood that the powers reserved by the constitution to the central government are not lessened or diminished. As the Cuban Chambers will not meet until the 4th of May, the Spanish government will not, on its part, object to a suspension of hostilities, if asked for by the insurgents from the General-in-chief, to whom it will belong to determine the duration and the condition of the suspension.

The President will communicate with Congress as soon as he can prepare a message. In connection with the official statement made public this afternoon it can be said on authority that the case as now made up by the negotiations between Spain and the United States will constitute the case as it will be submitted to Congress in the President's message. There is no present intention of pursuing negotiations which will change the status of the Cuban question as now presented in the correspondence between Spain and the United States.

Movements of Warships. PHILADELPHIA, April 1.—The United States cruiser Minneapolis sailed from League Island navy yard early this morning bound for Hampton Roads, where she will join the squadron. The monitor Miantonomoh and the harbor defense ram Katahdin will sail within a day or two. Workmen are engaged night and day on the eight old monitors and five of them are practically ready for sea.

KEY WEST, April 1.—The work of stripping the United States warships of their woodwork, in order to make them ready for war service, was continued this morning. The patrol of the fleet will be continued at night until further orders. There have been no movements of the fleet this morning.

LONDON, April 1.—A steamer which has arrived from Las Palmas, Canary Islands, reports having met four Spanish torpedo boats and three torpedo boat destroyers, with an escort ship, on March 23, a few miles distant from Las Palmas. They were going south and were understood to be bound for Cuba.

NEW YORK, April 1.—The battleship Texas has donned her war paint, and from water line to the truck is a dull slate color, and by Monday she will be ready for service.

PORT MONROE, April 1.—The steamer Yarrow, of the old Dominion Line, landed 45 seamen here to-day, thirty of whom were assigned to the cruiser Columbia and fifteen to the Minneapolis, which is expected here this evening. Lieutenant Brainerd, of the Brooklyn, has been relieved and assigned to the command of the "mosquito fleet" tugs. The Columbia began painting this morning and, while her excess of free board over the other members of the squadron will necessitate a longer time to complete the work, her officers expect to have it done by morning when she will run up to Newport News for a full complement of coal. The first move of the flying squadron under Commodore Schley's orders, was made shortly after noon to-day when the Massachusetts and the Brooklyn came down Hampton Roads and anchored off Fortress Monroe. The Columbia, after coaling, will join them and upon saluting the commodore's flag, will be a part of the squadron. The addition of the Minneapolis will make a formidable array of fast fighting vessels, exclusive of the Massachusetts, which is rather slower than the others and for which Commodore Schley, if very rapid action is required, will not wait. Both Commodore Schley and Captain Cook, his chief of staff, are very reticent and refuse to discuss not only events that have taken place, but also refuse to theorize upon any situation that might occur. The Montgomery, which is expected here to-day, is believed to be coming in for the purpose of having improvements made to some of her gun-mounts and not to join the squadron.

At a meeting of the New Haven, Conn. Chamber of Commerce to-day it was unanimously voted to request the Connecticut Representatives and Senators in Washington not to oppose the policy of President McKinley relative to the Spanish complications.

It is a great leap from the old-fashioned doses of blue-mass and nauseous physic to the pleasant little pills known as DeWitt's Little Early Riders. They cure constipation, sick headache and biliousness. Charles G. Lennon.

## From Madrid.

MADRID, April 1.—The opinion is expressed from an authoritative source that an agreement between the governments of Spain and the United States will be reached, including the Maine and reconcentrados questions. It is added that this also means arriving at a durable peace for Cuba. Those who are best informed here believe peace is assured unless President McKinley's hands are forced, making him depart from the calm attitude he has assumed throughout the crisis. It is further semi-officially asserted that the Spanish government "will not hesitate to do everything necessary to preserve peace without other limits than national dignity and territorial integrity." Inquiries made last evening of United States minister Woodford failed to secure anything confirming the optimistic impressions prevailing here.

The substance of yesterday's proposals of the Spanish government to the Associated Press correspondents is that, the insurgents should accept an armistice, and not the United States, and that the request for an armistice should be dealt with by an autonomist cabinet of Cuba and without the intervention of good offices of the United States. When informed of the proposed government measures for the relief of the reconcentrados, the Queen Regent announced that she would appoint a ladies' committee, over which she will personally preside, to take charge of and educate the orphans of the war, both Cubans and Spaniards.

According to the best information obtainable to-day Spain has definitely resolved not to make any further concessions to the United States.

LONDON, April 1.—The Daily Mail says that at the conference in Madrid Senor Sagasta read to Minister Woodford Spain's reply. The chief demands of the United States were rejected, the feeling being that they are inconsistent with the dignity and honor of any nation. The note was then telegraphed to the various European powers. On receiving Spain's note General Woodford's only comment was the expression of his personal wishes for conciliation and peace. "I am assured," said the Mail's correspondent adds, "that France and Russia have asked Spain to formulate the utmost limits of concessions she can make, the two powers evidently intending to mediate. The Minister of Marine has received hundreds of applications from Spanish and foreign ship owners for letters patent for privateers to act against America."

MADRID, April 1.—The most important comment on the situation this afternoon is that of the Ministerial Journal, El Liberal. It says: "We have done all we can to remove pretext for a rupture. If President McKinley refuses our concessions, with quiet conscience, will await any trial which may come and defend our honor and our rights. The entire nation supports the government. Spain must no longer live under the continual menace and unrest of the past three years. Even a rupture is preferable. We desire peace, but that limit of our long suffering has at an end. We will not be the aggressor, but we will defend our rights."

## From Havana.

HAVANA, April 1.—Captain General Blanco last night called the colonels of the volunteer regiments to the palace and consulted with them. He impressed upon the officers the "necessity of greater union than ever in these troubled times," and recommended that the highest discipline be maintained and that the more patriotic be shown. The officers pledged to their "lives, fortunes and sacred honor," after which they suggested that the captain general should notify the merchants and others of his desire that they should allow their clerks and other employees to join the volunteers.

Later the rumor spread that war had been declared, but the excitement was soon allayed by men of prominence who assured all inquirers that war had not been declared.

The insurgents, it is announced, have wrecked with dynamite a freight train near Guanabana, province of Matanzas, injuring the engineer and a fireman.

Colonel Bances, of the volunteers, has suggested that one year's taxes be given to the fund being raised to increase the strength of the Spanish navy. The suggestion has met with favor.

The Spanish cruisers Viscaya and Oquendo, sailed from Havana to-day.

The Union Constitution says: "The necessity for concentration having disappeared, Captain-General Blanco's decree properly does away with it. It says the government will provide for the reconcentrados in a proper manner, and the lying charity of the United States is not needed."